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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Daisuke SHINOHARA et al.

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Filed: September 6, 2000

Technology Center 2100

For: A REMOTE MAINTENANCE MET

A REMOTE MAINTENANCE METHOD OF AN INFORMATION

PROCESSING APPARATUS

Group: 2143

Serial No.:

Examiner: T. Mauro Jr.

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

November 10, 2004

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated June 10, 2004, the period for reply thereto being extended two months by the attached Petition for Extension of Time to expire November 10, 2004, and preliminary to the examination of the RCE being filed concurrently with this amendment, reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested in view of the following amendments and remarks.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2.

Remarks are included following the amendments